

AN ADDITION TO THE GENUS
LEPANTHOPSIS

BY
OAKES AMES

A NEW SPECIES of *Lepanthopsis* (Cogn.) Ames, a native of Colombia, differing from all known species of the genus in its conspicuously acuminate sepals, has appeared among collections made in 1922 by Ellsworth P. Killip.

Lepanthopsis is a genus of exceptional interest. In its vegetative organs it suggests *Lepanthes*; in the general aspect of the flowers it recalls *Pleurothallis*, but in its generative structures it leans strongly toward that section of *Stelis* which is distinguished by having the stigmatic lobes widely separated.

Lepanthopsis acuminata *Ames sp. nov.*

Herba epiphytica, caespitosa. Caules secundarii ascendentes, monophylli, vaginis infundibuliformibus omnino inclusi, vaginarum ostiis hispidis. Folium ellipticum, bene marginatum, breviter petiolatum. Inflorescentia folium multo superans. Racemus multiflorus. Flores parvi. Sepala lateralia prope basim connata, lanceolata, valde acuminata. Sepalum dorsale lanceolatum, valde acuminatum, uninervium. Petala oblongo-ovata, acuta. Labelium cordatum, trinervium. Columna generis.

A small caespitose epiphyte about 7 cm. tall. Roots fibrous, glabrous. Stems slender, concealed by closely appressed tubular sheaths, monophyllous. Sheaths 7–10 mm. long, smooth except for the minutely ciliate margins of the infundibuliform tips. Leaves 10–15 mm. long, 6–8 mm. wide, elliptic-oblong or elliptic, obtuse, marginate, shortly petiolate. Inflorescence produced from the axil of the leaf. Raceme 1.5–3 cm. long, unilateral. Bracts of the inflorescence infundibuliform, about 1 mm.

long. Flowers about 1.5 mm. apart. Lateral sepals about 3 mm. long, lanceolate, acuminate, connate only near the base. Dorsal sepal lanceolate, acuminate, obscurely 1-nerved, about 3 mm. long and 1 mm. wide. Petals ovate-oblong, acute or somewhat obtuse, about 0.75 mm. long and 0.50 mm. wide. Labellum about 1 mm. long and broad, cordate, 3-nerved. Column very short with the stigmatic lobes separated by the triangular rostellar process.

Lepanthopsis acuminata is allied to *L. densiflora* (Rodr.) Ames and to *L. floripecten* (Reichb.f.) Ames, differing from them chiefly in the acuminate lateral sepals which are connate only near the base.

COLOMBIA: Department of El Valle, La Cumbre, Cordillera Occidental. Epiphytic herb in forest. At 700-2200 meters altitude. Perianth red-brown and green. September 11, 18, 1922. Killip 11298 (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 47693).

EXPLANATION OF THE ILLUSTRATION

LEPANTHOPSIS ACUMINATA Ames. Plant drawn natural size from a dried specimen of the type. A fragment of the raceme is represented much enlarged. 1, a petal, much enlarged. 2, a labellum, much enlarged. 3, a column, much enlarged, showing the laterally situated stigmatic lobes.

Drawn May 1938 by BLANCHE AMES

